

House of Representatives, March 5, 1998. The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. BYSIEWICZ, 100th DIST., Chairman of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION OF PURCHASE ORDERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 4-98 of the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is
3 substituted in lieu thereof:

4 (a) Except for such emergency purchases as
5 are made by a budgeted agency under regulations
6 promulgated by the Commissioner of Administrative
7 Services, no budgeted agency nor any agent thereof
8 shall incur any obligation, by order, contract or
9 otherwise, except by the issue of a purchase order
10 and commitment transmitted by the budgeted agency
11 or its agents to the commissioner and the
12 Comptroller, provided the amount to be charged
13 against the appropriation for a budgeted agency in
14 any year for a purchase order and commitment for a
15 current expenditure shall be the amount
16 anticipated to be spent in such year. The amount
17 to be charged against the appropriation for any
18 budgeted agency in any year for a capital
19 expenditure, including an instalment purchase,
20 shall be the state's total cost for such capital
21 expenditure unless otherwise authorized by the
22 General Assembly or approved by the Finance

23 Advisory Committee. Upon the receipt of any such
24 purchase order and commitment, the Comptroller
25 shall immediately charge the same to the specific
26 appropriation of the budgeted agency issuing the
27 same and certify on the face of the purchase order
28 that the purchase is approved and recorded, if the
29 proposed commitment is within the applicable
30 specific appropriation and the budgeted agency has
31 unencumbered funds sufficient to defray such
32 expenditure. The Comptroller shall promptly
33 transmit such certified purchase order to the
34 vendor named therein. [Any purchase order, except
35 an emergency purchase order herein provided for,
36 issued to a vendor without the certificate of the
37 Comptroller stamped thereon shall be void.]

38 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of
39 subsection (a), the Comptroller may delegate to a
40 budgeted agency the certification and transmission
41 requirements of this section and authorize a
42 budgeted agency to retain the [original] AGENCY
43 COPY OF THE purchase order and commitment,
44 provided said agency transmits the information
45 contained in such purchase order and commitment to
46 the Comptroller. Such delegation and authorization
47 shall be made in accordance with procedures which
48 the Comptroller shall establish in regulations
49 adopted in accordance with the provisions of
50 chapter 54.

51 (c) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF
52 SUBSECTION (a), THE COMPTROLLER MAY DELEGATE TO
53 ANY BUDGETED AGENCY THE CERTIFICATION AND
54 TRANSMISSION OF PURCHASE ORDERS USING ELECTRONIC
55 METHODS, PROVIDED SUCH AGENCY TRANSMITS THE
56 INFORMATION CONTAINED IN SUCH ORDER AND COMMITMENT
57 TO THE COMPTROLLER.

58 [(c)] (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of
59 subsection (a), the Comptroller may allow budgeted
60 agencies to use purchasing cards for purchases of
61 one thousand dollars or less. No budgeted agency,
62 or any official, employee or agent of a budgeted
63 agency, shall incur any obligation using such a
64 card, except in accordance with procedures
65 established by the Comptroller.

66 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its
67 passage.

68 GAE COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 16 NAY 0 JF

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"THE FOLLOWING FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND BILL ANALYSIS ARE PREPARED FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SOLELY FOR PURPOSES OF INFORMATION, SUMMARIZATION AND EXPLANATION AND DO NOT REPRESENT THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR EITHER HOUSE THEREOF FOR ANY PURPOSE."

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER HB 5045

STATE IMPACT	None, see explanation below
MUNICIPAL IMPACT	None
STATE AGENCY(S)	State Comptroller, Department of Administrative Services

EXPLANATION OF ESTIMATES:

STATE IMPACT: The bill, which revises the statutes regarding purchase orders to reflect new electronic procurement methods, has no budgetary impact on state agencies. The electronic processing of purchase orders has the potential to result in administrative efficiencies and could expedite purchases.

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OLR BILL ANALYSIS

HB 5045

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION OF PURCHASE ORDERS

SUMMARY: This bill allows the comptroller to authorize an agency to verify and certify electronically that its budget includes appropriated funds to cover an expenditure and to transmit its purchase orders to vendors that way. If it does so, the agency must also forward the information in the purchase order and the commitment documents to the comptroller.

Currently, an agency that has authority delegated by the comptroller sends its purchase orders to vendors in

other ways. An agency that has no delegated authority sends original purchase orders and commitments to the comptroller for certification. Then, the comptroller forwards orders to the vendors.

The bill eliminates the requirement for the comptroller's certification stamp on nonemergency purchase orders. The stamp is not currently required for emergency orders.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Report
Yea 16 Nay 0